

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 EPA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 L-03 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 SS-15 SP-02 FEAE-00

INT-05 ERDA-05 H-02 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 BIB-01 CU-02 ISO-00 /114 R

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EUR/SOV - W.EDGAR (IN DRAFT)

EUR/RPE - G.WOLFE (IN DRAFT)

EUR/RPM - J.MADDEN (IN SUBSTANCE)

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, SENV, CSCE, ECE, UR

SUBJECT:SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR POST-HELSINKI CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT

REF: MOSCOW 2438

1. SOVIET DELEGATION TO FEB. 9 - 13 MEETING OF SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISERS TO ECE APPARENTLY WAS NOT PRIVY TO NESTORENKO THINKING REPORTED REFTEL. THIS IS NOT SURPRISING SINCE DELEGATION LEADER ALEXANDER RYABCHIKOV IS DEAN OF GEOGRAPHY AT MOSCOW UNIVERSITY, AND THEREFORE PROBABLY NOT CLUED IN ON ALL MFA THINKING.

2. IN WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISERS, ECE SECRETARY GENERAL STANOVNIK EXPLICITLY REFERRED TO BREZHNEV PROPOSALS AT POLISH PARTY CONGRESS AND INQUIRED ABOUT SOVIET THINKING. SUBSEQUENTLY, WE PRESSED RYABCHIKOV ON SAME POINT. RYABCHIKOV SAID SOVIETS BELIEVED WE SHOULD PROCEED "WITH CARE, NOT TOO HASTILY" IN CSCE FOLLOW-UP ON ENVIRONMENT. HE AGREED THAT ECE WAS APPROPRIATE VEHICLE, AND FURTHER CONCURRED IN SENIOR ADVISERS' CONSENSUS THAT FOLLOW-UP SHOULD CONSIST AT THIS POINT OF EMPHASIS UPON TWO ISSUES EXPLICITLY MENTIONED IN HELSINKI DECLARATION: LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS AND PREDICTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. AS FURTHER FOLLOW-UP, HE SUGGESTED ECE EVOLVE LONG-TERM PROGRAM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF HELSINKI DECLARATION. SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISERS AGREED TO CONSIDER DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM PROGRAM AT NEXT MEETING OF ADVISERS IN FEBRUARY, 1977.

3. WHATEVER ITS FAULTS, ECE CHANNEL REPRESENTS RELATIVELY NON-POLEMICAL LINKAGE BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO KEEP POST-CSCE ENVIRONMENTAL FOLLOW-UP PRIMARILY IN THAT CHANNEL. WITH ECE ACTIVITIES, PLUS ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SEVERAL BILATERALS, WE ARE ALREADY ENGAGED IN ABOUT AS MUCH SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE WITH EAST EUROPE AND USSR AS RESOURCES OF EPA AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES OF USG WILL BEAR. SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ANOTHER FORUM WOULD INVITE A COMPETITION IN HIGH-CONFIDENTIAL
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SOUNDING ORATORY TO DEMONSTRATE PARTICIPANTS' DEDICATION TO CSCE AND TO ENVIRONMENT, WITHOUT MUCH SUBSTANCE.

4. ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD DISCREETLY ENDEAVOR TO HEAD OFF SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ANOTHER FORUM, IF IT MATERIALIZES. INGERSOLL

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